SECRET

COMSAT GROUND STATION
TAPASTE, CUBA
23-02N 082-04W

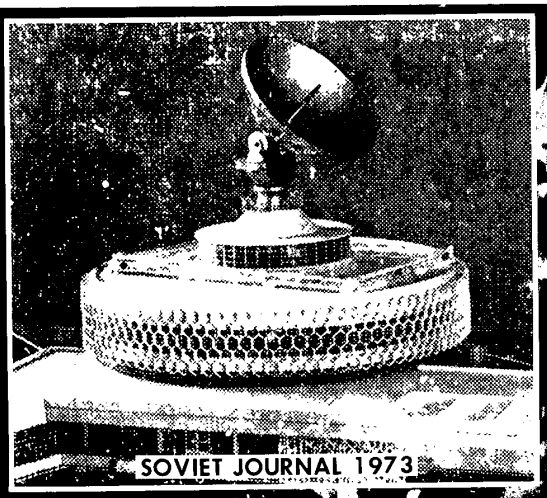
NATIONAL PHOTOGRAPHIC INTERPRETATION CENTER

25X1

MISSION GA 010, 19 SEPTEMBER 1973

N

25X1



SOVIET JOURNAL 1973

ANTENNA

CONTROL BLDG
UCON

CRANE

0 50 100 FEET (APPROX)

N-8316 NPIC (9/73)

SECRET

SECRET

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Attachment to N- 8316/73
24 September 1973
Page 1 of 3

Copy 8

REFERENCE TO: OLYMPIC FIRE MISSION GA010,

COMSAT GROUND STATION
TAPASTE, CUBA

1. SIGNIFICANCE: A LARGE DISH ANTENNA HAS BEEN PLACED ON A PEDESTAL AT THE COMSAT GROUND STATION.

2. LOCATION: TAPASTE COMSAT GROUND STATION IS 16 NAUTICAL MILES (NM) SOUTHEAST OF HAVANA, 3 NM EAST-NORTHEAST OF TAPASTE, AND 3.5 NM WEST OF JARUCO AT 23-02-14N 082-04-45W. [redacted] 25X1

3. COLLATERAL: THE SOVIET DEPUTY MINISTER FOR COMMUNICATIONS, IN AN INTERVIEW GIVING GENERAL INFORMATION ON THE MOLNIYA SATELLITE COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM, MADE REFERENCE TO THE FACT THAT ORBITA GROUND STATIONS ARE BEING CONSTRUCTED IN EAST GERMANY, CZECHOSLOVAKIA, AND CUBA. (RADIO - SOVIET JOURNAL, NO. 6, 1973, UNCLASSIFIED).

THE MOLNIYA SATELLITE COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM IS A PART OF "INTERSPUTNIK", AN ORGANIZATION

These notes have been prepared for briefing purposes only and should not be used for detailed analytical work. Their use should be restricted to the particular briefing boards (s) they were prepared for and must be considered valid only for the reporting period as indicated by the date of issue. For information concerning these notes contact Chief, Imagery Exploitation Group NPIC.

WARNING NOTICE
Sensitive Intelligence Sources and Methods Involved.

[redacted] 25X1

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COMPOSED ON NINE SOCIALIST COUNTRIES INCLUDING CUBA. THE PURPOSE OF THE ORGANIZATION IS TO CREATE JOINT SATELLITE COMMUNICATIONS LINKS FOR RADIO, TELEVISION, TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH. THE MOLNIYA SATELLITE COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM CONSISTS OF SEVERAL SIMULTANEOUSLY OPERATING SATELLITES. ON THE GROUND THERE IS AN EXTENSIVE NETWORK OF ORBITA RECEIVING AND RECEIVING-TRANSMITTING STATIONS. (RADIOTEKHNIKA, 1972, MOSCOW, UNCLASSIFIED).

4. NEGATION DATE: THE ANTENNA WAS NOT PRESENT ON [ ] 25X1

[ ] 25X1

5. DIMENSIONS/ SPECIFICATIONS: MEASURED DIAMETER OF THE ANTENNA DISH IS [ ]. THE INCLINATION ANGLE 25X1

OF THE DISH IS [ ] ACCURACY OF MENSURATION IS WITHIN A 95% CONFIDENCE INTERVAL. 25X1

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6. MISSION READOUT: CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY WAS CONTINUING ON THE COMSAT GROUND STATION. A LARGE CIRCULAR DISH ANTENNA WAS OBSERVED ON A PEDESTAL AT THE TOP OF THE CONTROL BUILDING. A CRANE WAS ADJACENT TO THE CONTROL BUILDING.

THE CONTROL BUILDING AND TWO PROBABLE SUPPORT BUILDINGS APPEARED TO BE IN THE FINAL STAGES OF CONSTRUCTION.

25X1

ENLARGEMENT FACTOR: 100X

INSET FROM SOVIET JOURNAL, RADIO, NO. 6, 1973, UNCLASSIFIED

IEG/SGD/AMEAB

COMMENTS AND QUERIES REGARDING THIS REPORT ARE WELCOMED. THEY MAY BE DIRECTED TO [redacted] OF SGD/IEG/NPIC, CODE 143, [redacted] 25X1

[redacted] 25X1

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